WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Centre-State relations

*244. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the resolution adopted unanimously at the 'Mahanadu' the Telegu Desam party conclave held at Vishakhapatnam in May, 2001 urging the Central Government to redefine Centre-State relationship through a greater devolution of power to the State Governments including higher allocation of financial resources;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether it is proposed to implement the same and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) The Central Government has not received any reference regarding resolutions adopted at the "Mahanadu", the TDP conclave held at Vishakapatnam in May, 2001.

However, the Government of India had set up the Sarkaria Commission to go into the issue of Centre-State relations. The Sarkaria Commission's recommendations aim at developing harmonious Centre-State relations and are being considered by the Inter-State Council, which have all Chief Ministers of States and Administrators of the Union Territories as members. Out of 247 recommendations made by the Commission, the Inter-State Council has so far taken a view on 171 recommendations. 95 of these recommendations have been implemented, 16 recommendations have been rejected and 60 recommendations are under implementation by States and Central Ministries.

The recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission considered and decided by the Inter-State Council which deal with devolution of more administrative and financial powers to States relate administrative Relations, Reservations of Bills, Deployment of Union

Armed Forces, Financial Relations, Forests and All India Services. Till the Tenth Finance Commission, States used to get a specified share of Union Income Taxes, Excise Duties, Additional Excise Duties and Grants in lieu of Railway Passenger Taxes. With the passing of the Constitution (89th Amendment) Bill, 29% of all taxes, ncluding Corporation Tax and Customs duties are devolved to ˬates. This will result in an increase from Rs. 20,63,43 crores of taxes devolved during the Tenth Finance Commission period to an estimated Rs. 37,63,18.01 crores over the period 2000—2005, representing an increase of 82.37%.

Production of non-conventional energy

*245. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the money Government have spent directly/indirectly for production of non-conventional energy during the last three years;

(b) the non-conventional energy, the various units produced during the same period; and

(c) the various methods used for producing non-conventional energy in the country, method-wise, quantity produced, during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OI THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) The Ministry has spent a total amount of Rs. 947.32 crores for production of non-conventional energy during the last three years *i.e.* 1998-99 to 2000-2001. During this period, it is estimated that about 9787 million units of electrical energy have been generated from major non-conventional energy sources of wind, small hydro and biomass energy in the country. The Ministry is promoting and implementing various non-conventional energy programmes/ schemes for producing decentralised rural energy based on standalone systems and for producing power based on grid connected systems. Various systems/device such as biogas plants, improved chulhas, small hydro power systems, biomass plants, wind power